29 >> FANTASY FOREST III

I thought you had fled the forest...

...but instead, you traveled ahead of us to the monster's domain...

And without knowing the way as well.

A curious power indeed, just as the tales say.

...THE "MONSTER'S DOMAIN"?

THERE ISN'T ANY MONSTER HERE...

Are you the descendant...

...of the monster they call "Azami"?

WHAT...?

KACHIN (SNAP)

YOU CAN CALL ME WHAT YOU WANT...

...BUT HOW COULD A GIRL AS CUTE AS THIS BE A MONSTER!?

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!?

カーン

KAAAA (BLUUSH)

I SAID IT...

UM...

ACK!

UH...

BUT WHAT HE'S SAYING DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE.

HE'S CALLING YOU A "MONSTER" AND THE "DESCENDANT OF AZAMI" AND STUFF...

CAN YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT THAT CREATURE IS SAYING?

YEAH, MORE OR LESS...

AZAMI?

THAT WAS MY GRAND-MOTHER'S NAME.

BUT IT SOUNDS LIKE THE CHIEF HERE THINKS SHE'S SOME KIND OF "MONSTER" OR SOMETHING...

REALLY? GRANDMA, HUH? HMM...

YOUR...

YOUR GRAND-MOTHER !?

WELL, I HEARD SHE HAD A POWER THAT WAS KINDA LIKE MAGIC, SO...

WAIT...

DOES THAT MEAN...?

...BUT THEY WERE ALL TURNED INTO STONE AND CRUMBLED TO DUST.

SOME VILLAGERS LIVING ON THE FOREST'S EDGE ATTEMPTED TO ATTACK HER ONCE...

IF MY EYES MEET ANYONE ELSE'S, THEY'LL TURN INTO STONE...

SO I...I CAN'T...

AZAMI? THAT'S MY GRAND-MOTHER'S NAME.

AND NOW, I AM TAKING YOU...TO THE DOMAIN OF THIS BEAST.

IS...

IS THIS GIRL THE CHIEF'S "MON-STER"!?

...?

NO! NO WAY! HOW COULD SUCH AN ADORABLE LADY BE A MONSTER?

FURU (SHAKE)

FURU

—SO...

What do you intend to do next?

In this forest, those with red eyes are viewed as objects of wonder... and fear.

These are old legends, yes, but many among us still believe in them.

OH!

If you attempt to take this monster away from here...

...you will encounter many who fear her eerie red eyes.

WAIT A SECOND...

ARE YOU SAYING THAT SHE HAS TO STAY HERE FOREVER?

.....

GU (GRIT)

!!

?...

THOSE RED EYES...

BASA
(FWISH)

SU (SHP)

NIKO (GRIN)

...DOES THIS WORK FOR YOU?

THE REDNESS IN HIS EYES...

SUU (FZSHHH)

ARE YOU THE CHIEF OF THIS FOREST...?

KATA (SHIVER)

KATA

I MEAN YOU NO HARM.

FU (SIGH)

SU (SHF)

HUH!?

W-WAIT A MINUTE!

I NEED TO TALK MORE...

ZA (ZZSH)

BA (RUSH)

...CHEE! SQUEAK!

HE...HE'S GONE...

HUH!?

ARE YOU TAKING ME AWAY?

KYOTON (BLANK)

ATA (FLAIL)

FUTA (PANIC)

NO, UH... I MEAN, I GUESS IT DEPENDS ON YOU, BUT...

I'M NOT SAYING IT HAS TO BE RIGHT NOW OR ANY-THING...

MOSO (RUSTLE)

THAT'S OKAY.

I'M HAPPY TO GO RIGHT NOW!

NIKO CGRIND

I JUST REALLY WANT TO LEAVE, I GUESS!

I DUNNO ...

A-ARE YOU SURE?

W-WELL, SURE IT IS! I MEAN, THAT'S GREAT TO HEAR...!

...IS THAT OKAY?

I'D BETTER GET READY RIGHT NOW, THEN.

GIVE ME A SECOND, ALL RIGHT?

YA AAY!!

AH...

PATA

PATA

PATA (PATTER)

POTSUN (ALONE)

ほっ～ん…

……

HOW WILL I EXPLAIN THIS TO EVERY-ONE…?

HH

TZA CKSSHD

I HAD NO IDEA THE WORLD COULD BE SO QUIET...

I HAD NO IDEA THE WORLD COULD BE SO QUIET...

PÖKAN
(GAPE)

UMM...

I'M NOT SURE WHERE TO EVEN BEGIN...

YOU JUST SHOW UP WITHOUT WARNING... WITH SOME STRANGE GIRL INEXPLICABLY IN TOW?

.....

GYU (TUG)

Y—

YEAH! LIKE, A NEW MEMBER, I GUESS!

WHAT!? YOU SERI-OUS?

WHERE'D THAT GIRL EVEN COME FROM, DUDE...?

HUH?

IS SHE FOR THE MEKA-KUSHI-DAN?

.....

IT'S...

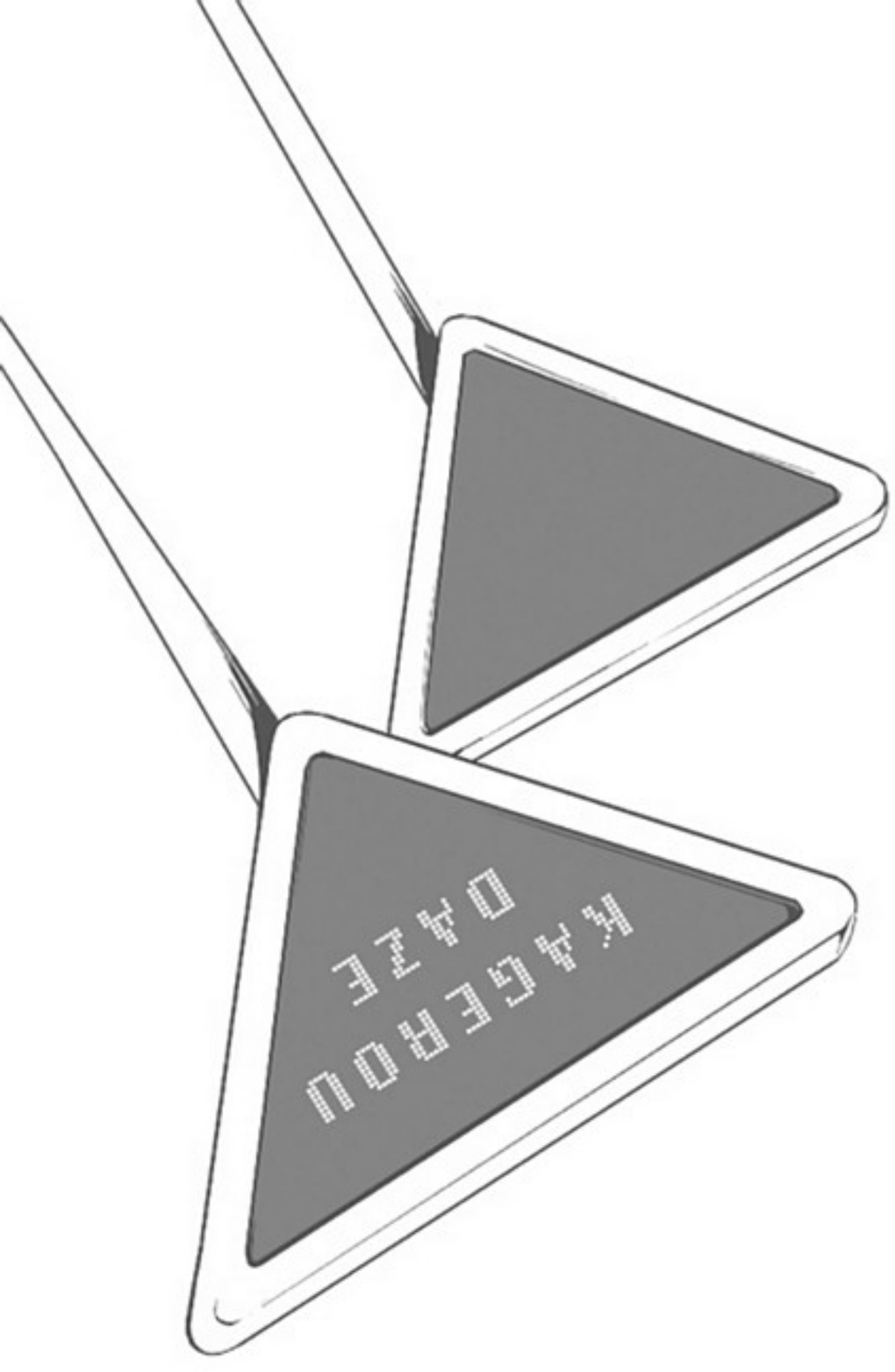
...MARIE.

HEY, WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

NI
CGRIND

WELL, WEL-COME!

YOU'RE IN THE MEKAKUSHI-DAN NOW!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